

Abstract

A network element with equipment protection has first and second redundant signal paths for first and second redundant signals; a selector for selecting either of the two redundant signals as active; and first and second transition monitors coupled to the first and second signal paths, respectively, for monitoring the first and second signals for bit level transitions. The selector is controlled by the transition monitors to alter selection in the case that the selected signal does not contain bit level transitions while the non-selected signal does.